

RCE/25W



PTO/SB/30 (10-08)

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**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/648,464-Conf. #8288
Filing Date	August 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	James D. Ralph
Art Unit	3774
Examiner Name	J. G. Blanco
Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-446 CIP III CONT

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
 - a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ii. Other _____
 - b. Enclosed

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
 2. **Miscellaneous**
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - b. Other _____
 3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any Overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)	01/16/2009 EAREGAY1 00000006 10548464
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)	01 FC:1801 810.00 DA
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
- WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature		Date	January 12, 2009
Name (Print/Type)	William A. Di Bianca	Registration No.	58,653

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: January 12, 2009

Signature:

(William A. Di Bianca)

01/16/2009 EAREGAY1 00000006 10548464 01 FC:1801 810.00 DA